

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

UNCLAS STATE 103627

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETEL, CO

SUBJECT: LETTER TO MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS GAVIRIA.

REF: STATE 89472

DEPARTMENT HAS DISCUSSED WITH FCC AND OTP THE INITIATIVE DESCRIBED IN REFTEL. GIVEN BELOW IS THE TEXT OF A LETTER EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO DELIVER TO MINISTER GAVIRIA FROM ACTING OTP DIRECTOR JOHN EGER. LETTER SIGNED BY EGER WILL BE POUCHED IN NEXT FEW DAYS BUT IN VIEW OF LETTER'S DELAY TO DATE, EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO DELIVER TEXT ON RECEIPT OF THIS CABLE. WOULD APPRECIATE KNOWING WHETHER MINISTER HAS OBJECTION TO TEXT OF LETTER BEING MADE AVAILABLE TO PRESS HERE.

DR. FERNANDO GAVIRIA, MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS, BOGOTA, COLOMBIA

DEAR DR. GAVIRIA:

I HAD HOPED TO WRITE EARLIER TO THANK YOU FOR YOUR KIND
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HOSPITALITY, BUT HAVE DELAYED WRITING WHILE WE CONSIDERED

FURTHER THE SUBJECT OF FREQUENCY MANAGEMENT WHICH WAS RAISED DURING OUR DISCUSSIONS IN YOUR OFFICE. I AM HAPPY TO SAY THAT THE U.S. WILL BE ABLE TO SHARE ITS EXPERIENCE WITH YOU AND OTHER SOUTH AMERICAN TELECOMMUNICATIONS AUTHORITIES. I HAVE DISCUSSED THE MATTER WITH THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION WHICH SHARES RESPONSIBILITY WITH OTP IN THE FREQUENCY MANAGEMENT FIELD, AND AM PLEASED TO INFORM YOU THAT, SUBJECT TO YOUR CONCURRENCE, OF COURSE, THE U.S. IS PREPARED TO SEND A SMALL TEAM OF INDIVIDUALS NOW INVOLVED IN RADIO CONFERENCE PLANNING TO BOGOTA FOR APPROXIMATELY FOUR DAYS. I SUGGEST MID-JUNE AS A CONVENIENT TIME FOR OUR EXPERTS. THE GROUP WOULD BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS OUR NATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS STRUCTURE AND CURRENT ASPECTS OF RADIO SPECTRUM PLANNING; AND HOW OUR GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE INTERESTS ARE REPRESENTED IN PREPARATORY WORK FOR WORLD ADMINISTRATIVE RADIO CONFERENCES. IF IT IS CONVENIENT, THE MID-JUNE VISIT MIGHT BE AN OPPORTUNE TIME TO MEET WITH REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE ANDEAN GROUP IF YOUR COUNTRY CONSIDERS IT APPROPRIATE. WE LOOK FORWARD TO YOUR COMMENTS IN THIS MATTER AND WHEN THEY ARE RECEIVED, WE WILL BE PREPARED TO DEVELOP SPECIFIC DATES AND DETAILS OF THE DESIRED DISCUSSIONS. I SUGGEST THAT YOU COMMUNICATE YOUR VIEWS TO THE AMERICAN EMBASSY IN BOGOTA WHICH WILL BE PLEASED TO TRANSMIT THEM TO WASHINGTON.

I AM SENDING A PAPER RECENTLY RELEASED BY OTP IN THE AREA OF CABLE/SATELLITE PLANNING. WHILE I KNOW IT IS NOT OF DIRECT APPLICATION TO U.S.-COLOMBIAN ROUTES, I THOUGHT IT MIGHT NEVERTHELESS BE OF INTEREST TO YOUR MINISTRY.

IT WAS A GREAT PLEASURE AND A PRIVILEGE TO MEET WITH YOU AND YOUR COLLEAGUES AND I LOOK FORWARD TO FREQUENT FUTURE CONTACTS BETWEEN TELECOMMUNICATIONS AUTHORITIES OF OUR TWO COUNTRIES. OF COURSE, IF YOU SHOULD COME TO WASHINGTON, PLEASE LET ME KNOW.

SINCERELY, JOHN EGER, ACTING DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF
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TELECOMMUNICATIONS POLICY SISCO

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